

**Response**

Applicant: Jason D. Hanzlik et al.

Serial No.: 10/730,698

Filed: December 8, 2003

Docket No.: 10395US01

Title: TAPE REEL ASSEMBLY WITH WEAR RESISTANT DRIVEN TEETH

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**THE CLAIMS**

1. (Previously Presented) A tape reel assembly for a data storage tape cartridge comprising:  
a hub portion including:  
a hub defining a tape winding surface that includes a first end and an opposing second end;  
a flange extending in a radial fashion from an end of the hub; and  
driven teeth integrally formed by the hub, the driven teeth extending relative to one of the opposing ends of the tape winding surface and defining an engagement surface;  
wherein the driven teeth are formed from a polymer including a lubricating additive.
2. (Original) The tape reel assembly of claim 1, wherein the polymer includes up to 25% by weight lubricating additive.
- 3-4. (Cancelled)
5. (Original) The tape reel assembly of claim 1, wherein the lubricating additive is selected from the group consisting of silicone, wax, polytetrafluoroethylene, fluoropolymer, fluorochemical, and oil.
6. (Original) The tape reel assembly of claim 1, wherein the driven teeth are formed from a polymer including a glass-filled polycarbonate and the lubricating additive.
7. (Original) The tape reel assembly of claim 6, wherein the polycarbonate is 20% glass-filled and the lubricating additive is polytetrafluoroethylene added to the polymer at approximately 5% by weight.

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8.(Original) The tape reel assembly of claim 1, wherein the lubricating additive is added to the polymer in the range of 2-10% by weight.

9.(Original) The tape reel assembly of claim 1, wherein the lubricating additive is added to the polymer at approximately 5% by weight.

10.(Previously Presented) A data storage tape cartridge comprising:

a housing defining an enclosed region and an opening communicating with the enclosed region;

at least one tape reel assembly rotatably disposed within the enclosed region and including:

a hub defining a tape-winding surface that extends between a first end and an opposing second end, the hub integrally forming driven teeth as an extension of one of the first and second ends, the driven teeth defining an engagement surface; and

a storage tape wound about the tape-winding surface;

wherein the driven teeth are exposed within the opening in the housing upon final assembly and are formed from a polymer including a lubricating additive.

11.(Original) The data storage tape cartridge of claim 10, wherein the polymer includes up to 25% by weight lubricating additive.

12-13.(Cancelled)

14.(Original) The data storage tape cartridge of claim 10, wherein the lubricating additive is selected from the group consisting of silicone, wax, polytetrafluoroethylene, fluoropolymer, fluorochemical, and oil.

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15.(Original) The data storage tape cartridge of claim 10, wherein the driven teeth are formed from a polymer including a glass-filled polycarbonate and the lubricating additive.

16.(Original) The data storage tape cartridge of claim 15, wherein the polycarbonate is 20% glass-filled and the lubricating additive is polytetrafluoroethylene added to the polymer at approximately 5% by weight.

17.(Previously Presented) A method of fabricating a tape reel assembly for a data storage tape cartridge comprising:

providing a polymer including a lubricating additive; and

generating a hub from the polymer, the hub including a tape winding surface that defines opposing ends and an integrally formed lower flange, the hub having driven teeth integrally formed thereon;

wherein the driven teeth project outwardly relative to one of the opposing ends of the tape winding surface.

18.(Original) The method of claim 17, wherein providing a polymer includes providing a polymer including up to 25% by weight lubricating additive.

19-22.(Cancelled)

23.(Original) The method of claim 17, wherein the lubricating additive is selected from the group consisting of silicone, wax, polytetrafluoroethylene, fluoropolymer, fluorochemical, and oil.

24.(Original) The method of claim 17, wherein providing a polymer includes providing a polymer having 20% glass-filled polycarbonate and approximately 5% polytetrafluoroethylene by weight.

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25.(Original) The method of claim 17, wherein providing a polymer includes providing a polymer compound.

26.(Original) The method of claim 17, wherein providing a polymer includes providing a polymer blend.

27. (Previously Presented) The tape reel assembly of claim 1, wherein the tape winding surface is integrally formed by the hub.

28. (Previously Presented) The tape reel assembly of claim 1, wherein the hub includes a core that defines an annular inner surface opposite of the tape winding surface, and the driven teeth are integrally formed by the hub to be disposed within a perimeter of the annular inner surface.

29. (Previously Presented) The tape reel assembly of claim 28, wherein the flange is a lower flange that is integrally formed to extend from the tape winding surface at the second end, and the driven teeth are integrally formed by the hub adjacent to the second end of the tape winding surface.